BULLETIN FROM

The New York Office 405 East 54th Street, New York

July 1, 1936

JUVENILE SUPPLEMENT

PICTURE STORY BOOKS

du Bois, William Pene — **ELISABETH AND THE COW GHOST** — Nelson

A Swiss tale, told in pictures and brief text. Elisabeth starts out as a gentle calf, she grows up as a gentle cow - and she yearns to be able to frighten someone, sometime. This distinction she achieves only as a ghost, and then her real nature triumphs once again, and she becomes a gentle ghost. There's a Peggy Baconish sophistication to the pictures, which may not appeal to children.(August 26th.) $.75

FIRST READING BOOKS

(This includes books to be read aloud as well as to read alone.)

Baker, Margaret — VICTORIA-JOSEPHINE — Dodd, Mead

* A delightful doll story, in which a long-cherished old-fashioned doll becomes the property of a spoiled modern child, who does not appreciate her, until mischance has dragged her through all sorts of mad adventures, spoiled her beauty, wrecked her clothes, and taken down her pride. Illustrated in silhouettes by Mary Baker. (~~August 20th~~). 10-7 ✓ $1.50 ✓

Dalgliesh, Alice — THE SMITHS AND RUSTY — Scribner

A story of everyday people - and particularly the story of two children who fell accidentally heir to Rusty, a lovable cocker, and nearly lost him as a result of showing him in a newsreel. Easy vocabulary and sufficient action to carry the young reader along. Illustrated by the Haders. $1.75

Youmans, Eleanor — LITTLE DOG MACK — Bobbs-Merrill

Another dog story, about a dog that was stolen, and about his hundred mile trek back to his beloved young master. Good yarn - and simple vocabulary. The story has more spontaneity than the one above. (August). 26 1.50?

And In FACT BOOKS

Pryor, William Clayton & Helen Sloman — THE COTTON BOOK — Harcourt, Brace

Another of this series of photographic fact books. The text has improved - excellent content material and splendid photographs, following the manufacturing processes and applications of cotton. (August 6th). $1.00

Smalley, Janet — DO YOU KNOW ABOUT FISHES? — Morrow

Another picture-fact series, which started with *Rice to Rice Pudding*. Swordfish, cod, eels, salmon, stickleback, shark, herring, flying fish, sunfish, sea horse, porcupine fish, sting ray - good follow through on aquarium. (August 26) $1.25

FOR THE 9 TO 12's - FACT BOOKS

(Oddly enough, there are no story books for this group this time.)

Naramore, Elisabeth **WILLIAM AND HIS FRIENDS** Viking

A unique sort of book - looks as though keyed to younger children, but I am afraid younger children would miss the special quality. The author has chosen animal figures in pottery and glass in the Metropolitan Museum, and illustrated her text with photographs, beautifully reproduced. She has followed no set path of chronological order, so ancient Egypt elbows modern France. A perfect piece of bookmaking, and a book that should take children museumwards. (Junior Literary Guild for July) (July 24th) $.75

Sanford, A. P. **NEW PLAYS FOR CHILDREN** Dodd, Mead

A collection of plays, for the most part short, and none requiring elaborate costuming and stage settings. Texts include fantasy, historical material, everyday incidents. For particular quality, read an amusing take-off on children's amateur productions, called *The Princess and the Dragon*. Most of the plays require payment of small fee for production. Practical for school and club groups. (August 20th) $2.00

Scacheri, Mario and Mabel **INDIANS TODAY** Harcourt, Brace

* A photographic fact book which could be judiciously - and advantageously - used with any age group, including adults. I learned a lot myself, of the life and interests and crafts and arts of modern Indians. Indicated by publisher for 6-10 group, but I feel it has a wider appeal and could be used here. (July 16th) $2.00

Davis, Lavinia **THE KEYS TO THE CITY** Scribner

** The best New York City book I have encountered. In story form - telling of the adventures of a summer spent in the city, instead of on the Sound - the author succeeds effortlessly in presenting the keys of the city to any reader, young or old. Odd corners of New York, new facets of familiar corners, not a guide book, but one that makes one want to explore the docks and the foreign sections, and that gives one a sense of adventure about it. A good yarn, as well. Illustrated by Nora Benjamin. (August). $2.00

THE LOWER TEENS - FICTION

Gilbert, Marion **JADE BRINGS LUCK** Longmans, Green

A story that bridges the historical background gap between the cave men (studied meticulously in lower grades) and more or less modern man of ancient history. The people are Lake Dwellers, and the story dramatizes their life of constant peril from nature and other men, and gives a vivid picture of their daily activities and backgrounds. Good factual material, thinly woven into a story, and illustrated by Clara Hart Van Lennep. (July 22nd) $1.50 or $1.75?

Monsell, Helen **THE SECRET OF THE CHESTNUT TREE** Bobbs-Merrill

Boarding school story and mystery story in one, with a past period as time setting. Railroads were still an adventure - school marms were straitlaced and forbidding - but ghosts walked and adventure stalked. Good yarn. (August) 26 ~~$2.00~~ ?? 1.75

FACT BOOKS

Blanchard, B. M. **YOUR AMERICA:** *Its Constitution and Its Laws* Lippincott

An important book, in that it brings together material that is difficult to locate easily, and that - for school references - belongs together. Declaration of Independence, Constitution, Washington's Farewell Address, Bill of Rights, Articles of Confederation, League of Nations, Arms Conference, Peace Conference, etc. Various patriotic songs. Facts and photographs of famous men. Running commentary on congress, various departments, etc. Good reference book, not a book which will create enthusiasm for practical political background reading. A bit flag waving in its approach - and choppy in its arrangement. (Published) $2.00

Durov, V. L. **MY ANIMALS** Houghton, Mifflin

A famous Russian animal trainer tells of his adventures with some of his animal friends, a dog, a pig, an elephant, a white rat, a chimpanzee, etc. Not the conventional type of animal anecdote, but would appeal to youngsters who liked the Frank Buck and the Clyde Beatty books. (August 25th) $1.75

Finger, Charles J. **FROM SCHOONER TO ZEPPELIN** Houghton, Mifflin

Should be sold as a skeleton history of the Navy, which should be supplemented with other books for the technical aspects, the physical aspects, and the social and economic aspects. However, it does give a rather original approach to the subject, telling stories of early naval ventures and adventures, introducing famous and obscure characters in our naval history, and - sketchily - bringing it up to date in trends, rather than detailed development. Early history more graphically and interestingly treated than later. Nothing of training and life at Academy, little of actual types of ships or life on board. (August 25th) $2.00

Fox, Frances Margaret **FLOWERS AND THEIR TRAVELS** Bobbs-Merrill

* I found it fascinating reading, this account of how flowers got where they are found. There is some lore, some fantasy, but mostly facts and authenticated theories. There is some biographical information, pleasantly presented, as to great scientists who contributed to further knowledge of plant life. A book which should interest not only people already interested in study of plant life, but should create interest in those who are indifferent. (August) 26 Price ~~??~~ ? 1.50

Horth, Lillie B. & Arthur C. **101 THINGS FOR GIRLS TO DO** Lippincott

Of course, there was too much surplus fancy work done - particularly in the youth of a generation now middle aged, but this book really has some good factual material, hard to get at, of how things are made. Certain basic stitches (I was surprised that some of them are still used), weaving, leather work, bead work, linoleum stamping, drawing in perspective and enlarging diagrams, use of water colors, raffia work, metal work, candy making, dyeing, cleaning, laundering, Some of the material duplicates some of the Hamilton books, with less detail - but the actual practical suggestions include less in the way of dust catchers than most books of the kind. Good for hospital activity use, for school crafts teachers - and for girls and their parents. (Published) $2.00

THE MIDDLE AND UPPER TEENS - FICTION

Best, Herbert **FLAG OF THE DESERT** Viking

** The story of the part played by two white boys, brought up under the aegis of officialdom in Africa, and themselves cognizant of the workings of the native mind, in unearthing the mystery of the spy creating disturbance and making trouble for the whites among the natives. Grand adventure - well done. Illustrated by Erick Berry. (August 21st). $2.00

Dragonet, Edward BEYOND THE GREAT WALL Bobbs-Merrill

A rather far-fetched and a bit dull story of bandits and duplicity on the Manchurian side of the Chinese wall. Perhaps the Chinese and Japanese names tend to add to confusion, but I found it hard to follow, and not convincing enough in the adventures to spur my interest. No sense of Chinese life nor character. (August). 26 Price $2.00??

Fargo, Lucile F. MARIAN-MARTHA Dodd, Mead

* First rate vocational story, with library work as background. I did not know the story of training for a vocation could be so spontaneous and entertaining in the telling. It is a good tale, good characterization, and, judging from the author's background, sound factually. As author of *The Library in the School, Preparation for School Library Work*, etc. she has a standing in the field, substantiated by her professional career. Illustrated with good line sketches by Dorothea Warren. (August 20th) $2.00

Meader, Stephen TRAP LINES NORTH Dodd, Mead

* Sell as fiction or non-fiction. The background facts are true, as Stephen Meader has drawn on the actual diaries kept by a young woodsman. But the substance is enlivened by being put in fiction form, as the story of the Vanderbecks' winter north in the Thunder Bay District of Ontario. Jim - 18 - and his younger brother take over their father's trap-lines, tramp from camp to camp, facing adventure and peril. Good outdoor stuff, for any red-blooded boy. Illustrated with actual photographs, and line drawins by Eno Comstock. (August 20th) $2.00

Means, Florence Crannell TANGLED WATERS Houghton, Mifflin

* Florence Means has been uneven in her production. This is a good one - and a new background for her. The story of an Indian girl, brought up with the traditional background, and exposed, through an accident, to a white civilization. She returns home, determined to merge the two. Shows the best of the American side, but is a pretty good picture of traditional Navajo life, and the conflicts between the old and new. (August 25th) $2.00

Schultz, James Willard THE WHITE BUFFALO ROBE Houghton, Mifflin

Schultz knows his conventional Indian background, the traditions, the superstitions, the details of Indian life and customs. This is the story of a youth who killed the white buffalo of the prophecy, of the part this played in his wooing, of his adventures. Not as vitally interesting a story as some he has told, but good for the Indian bookshelf. Once the story gets under way it gathers momentum, is good adventure, of its kind. (August 25th). $1.75

Weber, Lenora Mattingly ROCKING CHAIR RANCH Houghton, Mifflin

* One knows that the shiftless Haydens will somehow save the ranch from falling to aliens, but the working out of the problem makes good reading, and the youngsters, particularly the girl twin, Bendy, seem thoroughly human and entertainingly real. The setting is Colorado - and the Haydens have experimented with castles in Spain, until the ranch is slipping from their hands into those of their enemy. It takes a hard knock to bring them to their senses - barely in time. Girl story, with adventure plus romance. (August 25th) $2.00

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